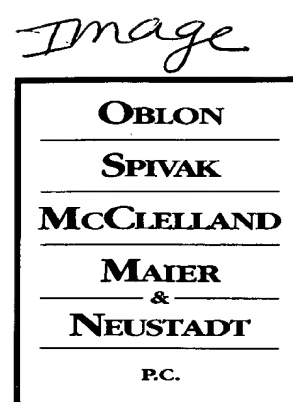




Docket No.: 214904US0PCT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

J. DEREK MASON
(703) 413-3000
DMASON@OBLON.COM

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/926,382
Applicants: Takanobu SUGO, et al.
Filing Date: October 23, 2001
For: METAL-COLLECTING APPARATUS AND
METHOD FOR ELUTION AND RECOVERY OF
METAL FROM METAL-COLLECTING MATERIAL
Group Art Unit: 1724
Examiner: HOPKINS, ROBERT A.

SIR:

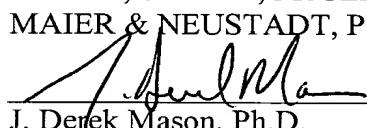
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Response to Restriction Requirement

Our check in the amount of **-0-** is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.


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DOCKET NO: 214904US



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
SUGO, TAKANOBU, ET AL. : EXAMINER: HOPKINS, ROBERT A.
SERIAL NO: 09/926,382 :
FILED: OCTOBER 23, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1724
FOR: METAL-COLLECTING :
APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
ELUTION AND RECOVERY OF METAL
FROM METAL-COLLECTING
MATERIAL

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Official Action of December 31, 2003, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group II, Claims 9-17, drawn to a process for eluting and recovering a metal.

Remarks begin at page 2 of this paper.